

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NICOSI 01631 031105Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7929  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1631

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU, UR  
SUBJECT: SOVIET POSITION ON INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS

REF: ATHENS 5498

1. FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE WE DO NOT DETECT A SIGNIFICANT  
SHIFT IN THE SOVIET POSITION ON CYPRUS. ALTHOUGH WE  
HAVE NOT SEEN COMPLETE TEXT OF JOINT SOVIET-TURKISH  
COMMUNIQUE, FROM WHAT WE HAVE READ OF IT WE BELIEVE  
IT REFLECTS SOVIET'S NATURAL DESIRE WHEN MEETING WITH  
TURKS TO EMPHASIZE THOSE COMPONENTS OF SOVIET POLICY  
ON CYPRUS ACCEPTABLE TO THEIR VISITORS WHILE OMITTING  
COMPONENTS TURKS COULD NOT ACCEPT. WE WOULD EXPECT  
SOVIETS TO FOLLOW SIMILAR COURSE WHEN PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU  
VISITS MOSCOW (HE HAS ACCEPTED INVITATION BUT NOT SET DATE);  
I.E., SOVIETS WOULD PLAY UP INTERNATIONALIZATION OF  
CYPRUS PROBLEM AND DEEMPHASIZE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS.

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PAGE 02 NICOSI 01631 031105Z

2. SOVIET POLICY ON CYPRUS AS ENUNCIATED HERE CALLS  
FOR SOVEREIGN, INDEPENDENT, NONALIGNED, TERRITORIALY  
INTEGRAL STATE AND WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN MILITARY  
FORCES (PRIMARILY TURKISH AND BRITISH, BUT PRESUMABLY  
ALSO INCLUDING GREEK) AND BASES. SOVIETS PROFESS  
THAT FURTHER INTERNATIONALIZATION OF CYPRUS PROBLEM,

SPECIFICALLY AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, IS BEST WAY TO ACHIEVE THOSE GOALS, BUT THEY HAVE NOT RULED OUT INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. IN FACT, COMMUNIST (AKEL) PARTY HERE, WHICH IS SLAVISHLY PRO-SOVIET, HAS TAKEN A MODERATELY POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD RESUMPTION OF TALKS, ALTHOUGH IT ALSO SUPPORTS GOC POSITION THAT CURRENT TURKISH PROPOSALS CANNOT FORM A BASIS FOR RESUMPTION OF TALKS. IN AN EDITORIAL ON JOINT COMMUNIQUE JUNE 28, AKEL MOUTHPIECE HARAVGHI ARGUED THAT THERE WAS NO INHERENT CONTRADICTION BETWEEN INTERNATIONALIZATION AND RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. GOC ITSELF HAS ADOPTED THIS POINT OF VIEW.

3. RIGHTIST PRESS UNDERSTANDABLY SEIZED ON OPPORTUNITY OFFERED BY COMMUNIQUE TO CHARGE SOVIETS WITH BACKSTABBING AND TWO-FACEDNESS, BUT THIS WAS MORE OUT OF DESIRE TO EMBARRASS GOC AND LOCAL COMMUNISTS THAN A GENUINE BELIEF THAT SOVIETS HAD PREVIOUSLY HAD A PRO-CYPRIOT POLICY WHICH THEY HAVE NOW ABANDONED.

4. INTERESTINGLY, GOC, WHICH IS USUALLY EXTREMELY SENSITIVE TO ANY INDICATION OF SHIFTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ON CYPRUS ISSUE, HAS NOT YET COMMENTED ON THIS FLAP. HOWEVER, SOVIET AMBASSADOR SAW GOC FOREIGN MINISTER ROLANDIS JUNE 28. THE SUBJECT MIGHT WELL HAVE BEEN RAISED THEN. IF GOC DID ASK FOR CLARIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NICOSI 01631 031105Z

OF COMMUNIQUE, WE WOULD EXPECT THAT GOC WOULD EVENRUALLY ISSUE SOME SORT OF PUBLIC STATEMENT HERE TO EFFECT THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN OVIET POLICY, WHICH REMAINS 100 PERCENT BEHIND CYPRUS.

5. WE CAN FORESEE THAT AT SOME POINT IN THE FUTURE, IF SOVIETS CONTINUE TO IMPROVE THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOT, THAT SOVIET POLICY INTERESTS MAY BRING THEM INTO CONFLICT WITH GOC. BUT AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING SOVIETS SHOULD BE ABLE TO CONTINUE WITH A POLICY OF ADVOCATING BOTH INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AS WELL AS AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE. AS LONG AS GOC GIVES NO MORE THAN LIP SERVICE TO THE IDEA OF AN INTERANTIONAL CONFERENCE, SOVIETS WILL BE ABLE TO AVOID A CONFRONTATION WITH EITHER GOC OR GOT.

6. SINCE FOREGOING WAS DRAFTED, GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN HAS ANNOUNCED THAT AT JUNE 28 MEETING FOREIGN MINISTER ROLANDIS AND AMBASSADOR ASTAVIN DISCUSSED LANGUAGE OF COMMUNIQUE. ACCORDING TO SPOKESMAN, AMBASSADOR ASTAVIN GAVE ASSURANCES THAT SOVIET POLICY ON CYPRUS HAD NOT CHANGED, AND GOC CONSIDERED ASSURANCES

SATISFACTORY AND REGARDED MATTER AS CLOSED.  
STONE

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## Message Attributes

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